

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 00537 262132Z

71

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-11 SAJ-01 SAM-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ARAE-00 /088 W

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P 262059Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1606

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

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EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, AO, HA, SG

SUBJECT: UNITA FORNMIN VISITS HAITI

REF: DAKAR 914

1. MARQUES MACOUMBA, UNITA'S SO-CALLED FOREIGN MINISTER, IS VISITING HAITI AND HAS GIVEN SYMPATHETICALLY-TREATED PRESS AND RADIO INTERVIEW EXPLAINING UNITA'S VIEWS. AS THE DAILY LE MATIN OBSERVED FEB 26, IT IS NOT UNLIKELY THAT MACOUMBA WILL MEET WITH GOH LEADERS WHILE HE IS HERE.

2. MACOUMBA WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT UNITA IS NOT IN EXILE BUT IS OPERATING FROM WITHIN ANGOLA, WHERE EVEN ITS LOGISTICAL

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PAGE 02 PORT A 00537 262132Z

SUPPLY BASES ARE BEING KEPT, JUST AS THEY WERE DURING UNITA'S

STRUGGLE AGAINST PORTUGUESE RULE. HE ACCUSED MPLA LEADER AGUSTINO NETO OF VIOLATING THE ACCORDS REACHED AMONG THE THREE COMPETING LIBERATION GROUPS, ADDING THAT MPLA LACKED PUBLIC SUPPORT. HE SAID ANGLOA NEEDED AN ELECTED GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZED BY BOTH THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE AND FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. HE SAID UNITA WOULD CONDUCT GUERILLA WARFARE IN SOUTHERN AND EASTERN ANGOLA, JUST AS IT HAD FOR 8 YEARS AGAINST LISBON. HE PREDICTED THAT CUBANS AND SOVIETS WOULD BE LESS EFFECTIVE FIGHTING UNITA GUERILLAS THAN HAD BEEN PORTUGUESE TROOPS.

3. MACOUMBA CLAIMED THAT ONE FACTOR THAT SHOCKED UNITA WAS CUBAN PRACTICE OF SENDING CUBAN BLACKS TO DO ACTUAL FIGHTING WHILE CUBAN WHITES REMAINED IN LUANDA AS NETO'S ADVISERS.

4. COMMENT - ALTHOUGH POSSIBLY JUST COINCIDENCE, WE FIND IT INTERESTING THAT MACOUMBA'S VISIT HERE CAME IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF SENEGALESE PRESIDENT SENGHOR, WHO WE UNDERSTAND PRIVATELY TOLD HAITIANS THAT HE CONTINUES TO OPPOSE RECOGNITION OF CUBAN AND SOVIET-BACKED MPLA AS LEGITIMATE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT (REFTEL).
ISHAM

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